

From: Steinke, Kate (CBC)
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/25/02 8:55am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

509 Lopax Road, Apt. L13
Harrisburg, PA 17112

January 21, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to take this time to give you my thoughts on the recent settlement of the Microsoft Anti Trust case. To begin, this case has been a burden on the technology industry and our entire economy. Consumers have only benefited from Microsoft's innovative technologies, the only harm that Microsoft has caused is being very successful and making our computer industry what it is today. This settlement cannot be delayed any further; Microsoft needs to focus on innovation, not costly legal battles.

I am a Software Engineer and I do applications development using both Microsoft and their competitors' products. Although they have utilized some rather aggressive marketing strategies, I applaud Microsoft for creating such a well-integrated system. As part of the settlement, Microsoft will now be sharing more of their server protocols, internal interface design and source codes. They will allow OEM's to pre-install competing products within Windows and have promised not to retaliate against third parties who decide to distribute both Microsoft and their competitors' products. Although the settlement concedes more than Microsoft may have wanted, it is certainly more than fair and will promote competition in the computer industry.

Please uphold this settlement and ensure that no further action is taken against Microsoft. Our economy is in no shape to withstand any more hardship.

Sincerely,
Katherine Steinke

